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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gary R. Janik et al.

Assignee: KLA-Tencor Corporation

Title: LASER-BASED CLEANING DEVICE FOR FILM
ANALYSIS TOOL

Serial No.: 10/056,271

File Date: January 23, 2002

Examiner: Gordon J. Stock, JR

Art Unit: 2877

Docket No.: KLA-003

Date: March 28, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE SECOND OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the second Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on December 28, 2004. In the second Office Action:

Claims 1, 8, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 27, 33, 35, 36, 37, 41, 44, and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,669,979 (hereinafter "Elliot");

Claims 2-5, 29, 30, and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliott in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,771,374 (hereinafter "Rangarajan");

Claims 9-13, 15, 34, and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliott in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,472,295 (hereinafter "Morris");

Claims 6, 31, and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliott in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,876,983 (hereinafter "Fukuda"); and

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elliott in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,333,485 (hereinafter "Haight").

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Claims 7 and 32 are objected to as being depended on rejected base claims. Claims 2-7, 29-32, and 42 are cancelled, rendering the rejection of and objection to those claims moot. Claims 1, 27, 37, and 41 are amended. Claims 51 and 52 are added.